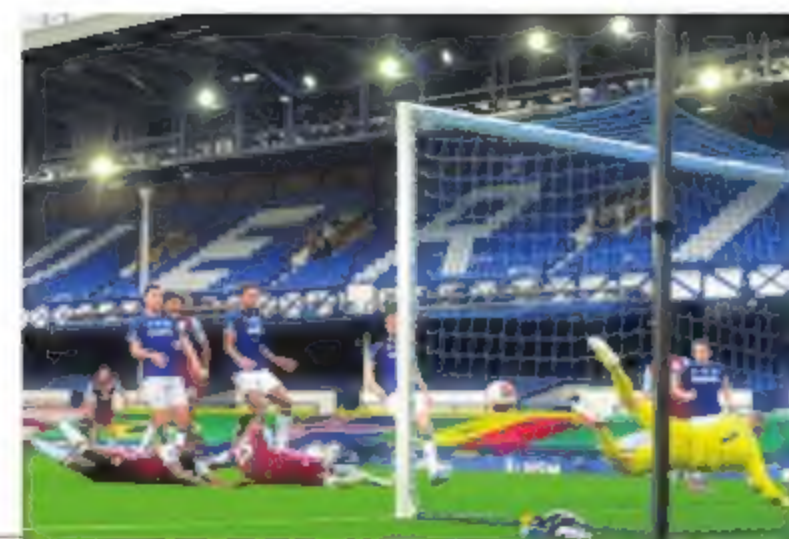




THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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FANS BACK IN ENGLISH SPORTS FROM NEXT WEEK

Spectators will be allowed into select sporting events from next week ahead of a planned wider reopening in October

CRICKET FIRST TO WITNESS SPECTATORS

Domestic cricket on July 26-27 is set to be the first sport that fans would be allowed to watch in person since March. Some spectators will also be allowed into the world snooker championship in Sheffield from July 31. The Glorious Goodwood horse racing festival on August 1 is also part of a government scheme piloting the return of fans

EPL SEASON TO END SANS FANS

Stadium capacities will be restricted and staggered entry times, social distancing measures and one-way systems will be required. Plans to bring crowd to the third Test between England and West Indies were scrapped after ECB and government discussions. Premier League will finish season without fans so will FA Cup

5000

PEOPLE-PARTICIPANTS CAN ATTEND THE GOODWOOD EVENT

K'TAKA MAY RUN INTO BIGGER COVID CRISIS ROUND THE CORNER

Shortage of beds can worsen the situation; Experts warn of strain on healthcare system

RANJANI MADHAVAN @Bengaluru

A looming health crisis stares the state in the face and its capital Bengaluru may most likely bear the brunt of it. Experts have warned of a huge shortage in beds and healthcare personnel even as Covid-19 cases are skyrocketing. These problems have already existed on the ground, but will only worsen as the state continues to break its own record every day in the number of cases, they warn.

As on Friday, Karnataka recorded 55,115 Covid-19 cases of which 33,205 are active. Of these, Bengaluru's count is 27,496 cases, of which 20,623 are active cases currently under treatment.

The BBMP's real-time dashboard on availability of beds as on July 17 shows 396 of them available in government hospitals, 58 in government medical colleges, 4,585 in private hospitals, 924 in private medical colleges and 239 in Covid Care Centres.

Over the last few days, 1,700 AYUSH doctors and 42,000 ASHA workers have stopped reporting to work, further straining the already ailing public healthcare system in Karnataka.

BSY to meet pvt medical colleges

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has called a meeting with representatives of private college hospitals at his home office 'Krishna' at 4 pm on Saturday, in a bid to seek suggestions from them towards fighting the pandemic better. **P4**

Dr. Dr. Satyanarayana Mysore, HoD of Pulmonology at Manipal Hospital explained that it is not just about reaching the peak, but how we reach it.

"If we reach two lakh cases in 10 days, there is no chance we will have enough beds. If we reach the same figure in two months, we still have a chance of finding beds for patients. In Bengaluru, if we see around 800 cases per day and say 60 of them need ICU, it will be difficult to find ICU beds for all of them. None of the prediction models are accurate and there are a lot of unpredictable factors driving this pandemic," said Dr. Mysore, who is also on the tele-ICU committee which is monitoring high-risk cases in the state. **P5**



Healthcare personnel in PPE suits attend to a person at a Covid-19 fever clinic on JC Road in Bengaluru on Friday | **MEGHANA SASTRY**

CM not for extending lockdown

ANUSHA RAVI @Bengaluru

WITH the state's finances under severe stress, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa has categorically ruled out extending the lockdown in Bengaluru by another week. At a meeting of Bengaluru zonal in-charge ministers, officials and MPs on Friday, Yediyurappa asked for focus to be shifted on resolving issues related to the testing-hospitalisation-recovery process.

Sources in the Chief Minister's Office said that given the

heavy losses being incurred by the State Government as well as private individuals due to the lockdown, Yediyurappa does not see it as a viable option anymore. Despite the steep spike in the number of cases, the CM is keen on allowing all economic activity, while addressing existing loopholes and scaling up testing and healthcare facilities further. Karnataka has so far tested 9,50,177 samples since March, with 24,700 of them tested on Friday alone.

KARNATAKA COVID-19 BATTLE

3,693

TEST +VE ON FRIDAY

55,115 TOTAL CASES

20,757 RECOVERIES

1,147 TOTAL DEATHS

Bengaluru Urban district reports a massive 2,208 cases in a single day. Replication of Dharavi model to contain spread commences in Mysuru. Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao in home quarantine after driver tests positive.

FULL COVERAGE

Fight exacerbates as FIR names Union minister for Raj plot

RAJESH ASHANI @Jaipur

RAJASTHAN'S political temperature went up a notch on Friday with the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the state police filing two first information reports accusing Union minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and rebel Congress MLA Bhanwar Lal Sharma of hatching a plot to topple the Ashok Gehlot government.

Sanjiv Jain, an agent-cum-businessman, was also named in the FIR and has been arrested. The BJP denied any links with him.

The day began with Congress spokesperson Randeep Surjewala claiming a few audio tapes surfaced on Thursday revealing alleged conversations of rebel Congress MLA Bhanwar Lal Sharma with BJP leaders on a trade-off to pull down the government. The Congress claimed one of the voices was that of Shekhawat, a senior BJP leader from Rajasthan and Union Minister for Jal Shakti.

The *New Indian Express* cannot vouch for the veracity of the audio tapes.

"Congress has suspended Bhanwar Lal Sharma and Vishvendra Singh from the primary membership of the party," Surjewala said and demanded a full probe by the SOG, after which the FIRs were filed. The SOG then sent a team to interrogate the accused MLAs, but were prevented by the Haryana Police from entering the hotel in Manesar where Sachin Pilot's



Ready for probe, says Union minister

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat was quick to deny any role in the deal-making. "I am ready to face any investigation. The audio tape doesn't have my voice. If I am called for questioning, I will definitely go," Shekhawat said. Bhanwar Lal Sharma, too, said the tapes were fake.

loyalists are lodged. The special team also intends to move court to seek voice samples of all the accused to verify the audio tapes.

However, Pilot got some relief as the Rajasthan High Court asked Assembly Speaker CP Joshi to put on hold any action against the rebels till Monday, when the hearing will resume. The order came before the deadline set by Joshi's office for responding to his disqualification notices to the 19 rebels, was to expire.

During the arguments, senior advocate Harish Salve, appearing virtually from his London home for Pilot, told the court that violation of the whip's directions with respect to acts outside the Assembly do not fall under the ambit of the Tenth Schedule. **P7**

Only 20% active cases in hospital care: Govt

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @New Delhi

ABOUT 2.73 lakh or roughly 80% of India's 3.42 lakh active Covid-19 cases as of Thursday have either no symptoms or mild symptoms, and are in home isolation, the Union Health Ministry said on Friday. The rest, about 70,000 cases, are undergoing treatment at hospitals.

This is for the first time the

Centre is revealing the composition of Covid-19 cases in home isolation.

"Almost 80% of the asymptomatic and mild cases have been advised home isolation under medical supervision," the ministry said in a statement on Friday.

"The moderate and severe patients are being treated in either the dedicated Covid-19 hospitals or dedicated health cen-

tres," the statement said.

Keeping mild and asymptomatic patients under home isolation has helped ease the burden on hospitals, which are focused on treating severe cases and reducing the fatality rate, it noted.

The ministry said less than 1.94% of the current cases or 6,643 patients are lodged in ICUs, 0.35% or 1,198 patients are on ventilator support and

2.81% or 9,623 on oxygen beds.

The ministry maintained that the country has followed a standard of care protocol for the differentiated categorisation of coronavirus patients—mild, moderate and severe—as clearly laid down in the Covid-19 clinical management protocol. "The effective clinical management strategies have shown to yield positive results," the ministry noted.



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Rahul faults foreign policy, EAM hits back

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE transformation of retired diplomat and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar into a *netaji* appeared complete on Friday after his stinging rebuttal to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's tweet and a video he posted earlier in the day.

Jaishankar has been smarting under attacks of late on his performance, including from within his party itself. On Friday, he gave it back to Rahul, tearing up his criticism of the government's foreign policy. Jaishankar said under the Modi dispensation, India's major partnerships are stronger, international standing higher and it engages China on more equal terms politically.

Rahul shared his thoughts on why China was aggressive and alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's policy "indiscretions" had left the country vulnerable. Joining issue with him, Jaishankar said major partnerships had been strengthened, adding: "Ask the analysts." India speaks its mind more openly now, he said, along with the one-liner: "Ask the media." About improvement in ties with Maldives, "Ask our businesses." On development assistance to Nepal, "Ask their citizens." And on the firm line on Pakistan, "Ask yourself."

FULL COVERAGE: P7

'FULL RESOLUTION OF ROW NOT GUARANTEED'

DEFENCE Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said the ongoing Sino-Indian stand-off in Eastern Ladakh ought to get resolved going by the way talks have progressed so far, but could not guarantee the extent of its resolution. He was addressing soldiers on his arrival at Lukung in Ladakh, which is near Pangong Lake where the People's Liberation Army (PLA) had clashed with Indian troops, which triggered the stand-off. "With the extent of progress in talks, the issue ought to get resolved, but I cannot guarantee to what extent it will be sorted out. But, I want to assure everyone that no power of this world can touch even an inch of land of India."



BESCOM

Sets Up EV Charging Stations in Bangalore City

BESCOM has installed 12 DC Fast charging stations and 100 AC charging points in various locations of Bangalore city in support of Electric Vehicle and Energy Storage Policy 2017 issued by the Government of Karnataka to promote e-mobility. The EV charging stations and charging points have been thrown open for the public use.

With the Support of Transport Department and Government of Karnataka, BESCOM has set up the Vehicle charging stations and are as below:

Charger Type	Installed during 2018	Installed with support of Transport Department in 2019	Total vehicles that can be charged
DC Fast Chargers	4	26	30
AC Slow Chargers	6	100	115

DC EV Charging Stations are setup at the following BESCOM office locations:

a) Corporate Office, K R Circle, b) Byatarayanapura W6 Sub-Division (Mysore Road), c) Katriguppe O&M Office (Near Indira Canteen), d) BTM Layout O&M Office (Near Udupi Garden Signal), e) HSR Layout Division Office (2nd Sector), f) Indiranagar E6 Sub-Division, HAL 2nd Stage, g) Mahadevapura E12 Sub-Division, Near Phoenix Market City, h) Banasawadi E8 Sub-Division (Near Banasawadi Police Station), i) Yelahanka C7 Sub-Division, Police Station Circle, j) Malhihere C6 Sub-Division, Below Flyover, k) Peenya N4 Sub-Division, l) Murugeshpalya O&M Office, HAL Road.

AC Charging Points are installed in Bengaluru City at parking lots:

a) BESCOM Offices, b) TTMC buildings, c) BDA Complexes, d) KSRTC Mysuru Road & Peenya Terminals, e) BBMP Ward Offices, f) KIAOB Jigani, g) RTO Offices etc.,

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED

(A wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
K.R. Circle, Bengaluru - 560001

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To safeguard public property and to assure violence is the Fundamental Duty of every Indian.



Shri. B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Customer should download mobile phone application "ElectreeFi" for using the vehicle charging services. User has to register in the application along with vehicle details.



Charges for availing EV Charging Services :

Connector Type	Rates (in Rs/unit) Incl. of taxes
AC Slow Charging (IEC 60309 Connector)	₹ 7.30
DC Charging (GB/T Connector)	₹ 7.42
DC Fast Charging (CCS / CHAdeMO Connector)	₹ 7.99